Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~A method for establishing and maintaining a~~ A differential snapshot is established and maintained for ~~of~~ a set of files stored on a volume ~~is disclosed~~. ~~The invention achieves processing time and disk space optimizations by avoiding copy on write~~ Copy-on-write operations are avoided for logically insignificant moves of blocks, such as the block rearrangements characteristic of defragmentation utilities. A file system ~~enhancement enabling the passing of~~ passes a block copy command ~~from the file system~~ to lower-level drivers that are ~~is used~~ to inform the snapshotter that a block move operation is not logically meaningful. When the logically insignificant move is of a block whose data forms part of the data captured in the snapshot virtual volume, and when the move is to a block location that is functioning as logical free space, the snapshotter can simply modify its block bitmap and update translation table entries without needing to perform a copy-on-write.

PAGE 13/22 * RCVD AT 2/22/2007 7:31:25 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/2 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:206 342 6201 * DURATION (mm-ss):05-44

BEST AVAILABLE COPY